



We are witnessing a great power struggle in our world, not primarily in political and military battles, but in spiritual conflicts. Frankly, the most powerful forces available shaping human destiny are spiritual, and that message *must* begin in the Church. If it doesn't begin in the Church, it will be delivered through destructive occult spirits. That means a Church professing to belong to a Kingdom but denying that Kingdom's spiritual power leaves the world in enormous deficit. So, this notion of a "Game of Thrones" is relevant—not only the world—but to our own personal journeys. All of us, apart from God, are inclined to establish our own personal "kingdom of self." When that behavior is left unchallenged, it will lead us on a self-destructive journey. That's why it's vital to be aware that both good and evil spiritual forces exist, and they impact our daily lives. The good news is we have a message of truth the world desperately needs to hear: There is a God who loves us and is willing to be known by us, and He has made provision for our wellbeing through the cross of Jesus of Nazareth. If we accept that reality, it will change our entire existence!

**What does it mean for God to be on the throne in your life? What are some common idols or distractions that can take God's place on the throne?**

## I. JESUS, LORD OF ALL

Philippians 2:9–11 <sup>9</sup> *Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Hebrews 1:1–4 <sup>1</sup> *In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days **he has spoken to us by his Son**, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.*

**Where has today's culture been reluctant to proclaim Jesus as Lord? How can Christians be more intentional ambassadors for Jesus?**

### *The Supremacy of Christ*

Colossians 1:15–18 <sup>15</sup> *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.*

Ephesians 1:22–23 <sup>22</sup> *And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.*

### Songs In Heaven

Revelation 5:8–14 <sup>9</sup> *And **they sang a new song**:*

*"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. <sup>10</sup> You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." <sup>11</sup> Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. <sup>12</sup> **In a loud voice they sang:** "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"*

<sup>13</sup> Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, **singing**: “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!”  
<sup>14</sup> The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

**How can knowing God watches over us give Christ-followers confidence and peace?**

## II. MISSION DRIFT

### Ephesus

Revelation 2:4–5 <sup>4</sup> Yet I hold this against you: You have **forsaken** your first love. <sup>5</sup> Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.

**How can we reconcile God's justice with His love and mercy?**

### Thyatira

Revelation 2:20–21 <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, I have this against you: You **tolerate** that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols.  
<sup>21</sup> I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling.

### Sardis

Revelation 3:1–3 <sup>1</sup> “To the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup> **Wake up!** Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. <sup>3</sup> Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

**What are some issues or attitudes that you feel the contemporary Church has tolerated for too long?**

### Laodicea

Revelation 3:14–19 <sup>14</sup> “To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation. <sup>15</sup> I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup> So, because **you are lukewarm**—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup> I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. <sup>19</sup> Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent.

**What does it mean to live with mission and purpose, and how does it relate to your faith in Jesus? What are some practical ways to live out your mission and purpose daily?**

## PROCLAMATION

In a loud voice they sang: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”  
“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!” Revelation 5:12, 13, NIV®